

Message Text

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12

ORIGIN EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 L-03 JUSE-00 COME-00 RSC-01 /027 R

DRAFTED BY EB/CBA/BP:RJBUSHNELL:VJW

APPROVED BY EB/CBA/BP:RJBUSHNELL

EA/K - HNEWSOM (SUBS)

L/EB - MSPIEGEL (PHONE)

JUSTICE - JDAVIDOW (SUBS)

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R 160000Z MAR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

UNCLAS STATE 052940

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, US, KS

SUBJECT: ANTITRUST: POSSIBLE TRADE RESTRAINT DECISION
BY KOREAN WIG ASSOCIATION

REF: SEOUL A-261, AUGUST 2, 1973

1. STATE AND JUSTICE DEPARTMENTS HAVE RECEIVED NUMEROUS INQUIRIES FROM AMERICAN FIRMS CONCERNING REPORTED MARCH 10 DECISION BY KOREAN HAIRGOODS EXPORT ASSOCIATION (KHEA) THAT KOREAN-MANUFACTURED WIGS MAY ONLY BE IMPORTED INTO U.S. BY AMERICAN WIG ASSOCIATION MEMBERS. MANY U.S. FIRMS IN WIG BUSINESS COMPLAIN THAT KHEA DECISION HAS EFFECT OF ESTABLISHING A MONOPOLY IMPORTER IN THIS COUNTRY AND CUTTING OUT INDEPENDENT IMPORTERS. JUSTICE DEPARTMENT ALSO CONCERNED ABOUT ANTICOMPETITIVE RESTRAINT OF TRADE EFFECTS ON U.S. MARKET.

2. PLEASE VERIFY REPORT OF KHEA MARCH 10 DECISION AND CABLE READILY AVAILABLE BACKGROUND INFORMATION, INCLUDING DEGREE TO WHICH ROKG INVOLVED IN DECISION OR TRADING OPERATION. IS EXPORT LICENSING SYSTEM INVOLVED?

3. DECISION WOULD SEEM TO BE ATTEMPT TO EXTEND ARRANGE-
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MENT ESTABLISHED LAST YEAR BY KOREAN EYELASH EXPORT

ASSOCIATION (REFAIR). EMBASSY SHOULD NOT MAKE FORMAL
REPRESENTATION TO ROKG AT THIS STAGE. PURPOSE OF THIS

MESSAGE IS TO CONFIRM REPORTS RECEIVED FROM U.S. INDUSTRY
SOURCES AND OBTAIN RELEVANT INFORMATION SO DEPARTMENT
MAY CONSIDER JUSTICE AND INDUSTRY CONCERNS AND DECIDE
WHETHER USG ACTION IS NECESSARY AND APPROPRIATE. KISSINGER

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Disposition Event:
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